



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

FERNALD

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REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF

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JUN 16 1999

Mr. Johnny W. Reising
United States Department of Energy
Feed Materials Production Center
P.O. Box 398705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705

SRF-5J

RE: A2, P1 Southfield
Excavation
Characterization

Dear Mr. Reising:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has completed its review of the United States Department of Energy's (U.S. DOE) revised Area 2, Phase I (A2, P1) South Field excavation characterization. This document was revised based on Agency comments on the Project Specific Plan (PSP) for high-purity germanium system confirmatory measurements in the On-Site Disposal Facility.

U.S. EPA finds that the revised PSP is generally adequate. However, the revised PSP discusses use of a sodium iodide detector system called a "GATOR" that employs a modified, diesel-powered, six-wheel utility vehicle. Use of this real-time detector system has not been approved by the regulatory agencies. Until U.S. DOE submits the information needed to support the use of the GATOR and this information is reviewed and approved by the Agencies, the GATOR should not be used during excavation activities at the site.

U.S. EPA approves the PSP for A2, P1 provided the GATOR is not used during excavation.

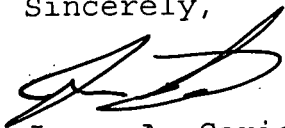
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Please contact me at (312) 886-0992 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



James A. Saric
Remedial Project Manager
Federal Facilities Section
SFD Remedial Response Branch #2

cc: Tom Schneider, OEPA-SWDO
Bill Murphie, U.S. DOE-HDQ
John Bradburne, FERMCO
Terry Hagen, FERMCO
Tom Walsh, FERMCO

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